



Dear Parent/Carer

As you may have seen in the media there has been additional information given regarding the GCSE and A level exams in the summer, the aim being that students who have had to isolate will not be disadvantaged.

These include

- More generous grading than usual, in line with results from summer 2020
- Students will receive advanced notice, as the end of January, of some topic areas covered in exams
- Exam aids, such as formula sheets, will be provided
- Additional back up exams will be held in July
- In extreme cases where a student misses all their papers, a teacher assessed grade will be given

What does this mean for Hazeley students?

We have a history of good results at both GCSE and A level and therefore any generous grading can only work in the student's favour.

As soon as we have the topics for the exams, subject teachers will be able to focus and support the students with ensuring they have an in depth knowledge on these topics. As well as ensuring they have all the other content for the paper as well, we must not just focus on the topics they give us, as they have stipulated 'some' topics areas will be released in advance.

Being provided with formula sheets, vocabulary sheets for languages etc means there is less memorising for the students to do and they can focus on application of these instead.

Back up exams in July mean if a student misses all their papers for a subject, they will still be able to sit an exam. However, we have no information of when these will be yet, if you were thinking of booking an early holiday you may want to hold off on this.

If we happen to have any students who are in isolation or poorly over the whole of the exam period, then teacher assessment grades will be given. This will only be after they have missed all opportunities to sit any of the exams.

What should Hazeley Students do differently?

Students should not do anything differently, they should continue to keep working hard, prepare for their PPEs by creating a revision timetable and developing their different revision techniques. This will help to ensure they gain their best possible grade, as although grades might be more generous, they will still be competing against others in their



cohort for places in their intended destination and be proud of what they have achieved.

All these changes can only benefit our students, and hopefully will reduce some of the stress and worry that they feel around their exams. Their excellent preparation will also help to reduce the worry as well. We will continue to fully prepare them for their exams, whilst taking and working with all the changes that are going to be implemented, but also ensuring that they have all the knowledge and skills to not only be successful in their exams but also for their next chosen destination.

Vocational qualifications are also expected to make adaptations to their exams to ensure fairness, however we have not had any update on this. For those students who are sitting vocational exams in January, they must continue to prepare as normal and if we have any update prior to these we will of course ensure students are aware and support them in final preparation for this.

As always, we are monitoring the situation and as soon as we have further clarity from the Department of Education, we will share this with you.

Many thanks

Miss Whiteman and Mrs Mayles